(ख) सरकार ने साहसिक, अवकाश और समुद्र तटीय पर्यटन हेतु पर्यटक केन्द्रों का विकास करने के लिए राज्य सरकारों के माध्यम से एक योजना शुरू की है। अवकाश गन्तव्य के रूप में भारत की छवि सुधारने के लिए वर्ष 1991 को "भारत पर्यटन वर्ष" भी घोषित किया गया है ।

IDBI Assistance for the Setting up of Industries in Madhya Pradesh

3478. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India is exploring possibilities of encouraging industries in the backward regions in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether IDBI has since identified the industries to be set up in the 'No Industry Districts' of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (c) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that it extends concessional financial assistance for all new viable projects in notified backward areas and attaches high priority to dispersal of industries and efficient development of backward areas. IDBI, jointly with Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI), commissioned during 1982-86 'No Industry District (NID) Survey' to identify industrial opportunities in 44 NIDs in various States. The study has resulted in identifying 122 projects involving capital investment of Rs. 363 crore with employment potential for 20,000 persons.

IDBI have further reported that of the total 18 NIDs declared in Madhya Pradesh 11 districts were covered under NID Survey. These surveys have enabled identification of 30 projects including those relating to Aluminium Pressure Die Castings, Auto Leaf Springs, Steel Forgings, Hydrogenated, Dehyderated and Medicinal Castor Oil, Poly-propyline Collapsible Tubes, Coal Chemical Complex, etc.

Demand for Sales Tax Exemption by T. V. Picture Tube Manufacturers in Punjab

3479. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the television picture tube manufacturers in Punjab have demanded sales tax exemption on their products as is being done in other neighbouring States;

(b) whether the manufacturers have urged Central Government several times to grant exemption of sales tax on TV tubes;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not granting such permission; and

(d) by when Government propose to take a decision in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (d) Sales tax is a State subject under the Constitution and the State Governments alone have the powers to grant concession/remission from levy of sales tax. Since Central Government do not have any powers to grant sales tax exemption on any product, all such references are passed on to the concerned State Governments for taking appropriate action in the matter.

Meeting between Indo-American Chamber of Commerce and U.S. Ambassador for Improvement of International Textile Market

3480. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting was held between the representatives of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Ambassador to India in February this year;

(b) whether some suggestions were made thereat for improving international textile market of the country;